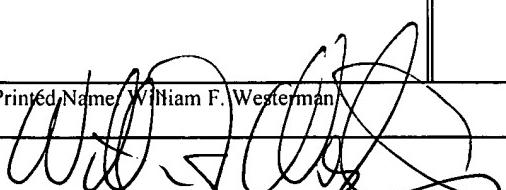


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		DATE: February 23, 2006
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. Application No. (if known): 10/569226
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP2005/014657	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: August 10, 2005	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED: August 10, 2004
TITLE OF INVENTION: CASK BUFFER BODY		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: Hiroki TAMAKI, Yuichi SAITO, Kiminobu HOJO, Tadashi KIMURA, Hiroshi SHIMIZU, and Akio KITADA		
Applicant hereby submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)): a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)</p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p>		
ITEMS 11. TO 20. BELOW CONCERN OTHER DOCUMENT(S) OR INFORMATION INCLUDED:		
<p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 together with the international search report, PTO/SB/08 and 8 references.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. ASSIGNEE NAME AND ADDRESS: Please publish the assignee data with the application.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. 1.76</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 C.F.R. 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: 35 sheets of Drawings.</p>		

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The following fees are submitted:		CALCULATIONS																																																					
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic National Stage Fee \$300 22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Examination Fee If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100 All other situations \$200 23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Search Fee Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority \$100 International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office \$400 All other situations \$500		\$ 300.00 \$ 200.00 \$ 400.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = \$ 900.00																																																					
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).		\$ 130.00																																																					
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a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$2,080.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. (\$300.00 for basic national stage fee; \$400.00 for national stage search fee; \$200.00 for national stage examination fee; \$130.00 for late filing of Declaration; \$800.00 for 16 extra claims exceeding 20; and \$250.00 for 4 additional sheets exceeding 100). b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-2866 in the amount of \$____ to cover the above fees. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.																																																							
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed to request that the application be restored to pending status.																																																							
Send All Correspondence To:		WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 Connecticut Avenue NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 CUSTOMER NO. 38834																																																					
Typed or Printed Name: William F. Westerman		Reg. No.: 29,988																																																					
Signature 		Date: February 23, 2006																																																					